

# The American Independent

VOLUME II.

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NUMBER IV

## LITERARY DIGEST BEGINS ANOTHER HUGE FAKE

This Great National Magazine, Once Authority On All Questions, Owned By Funk & Wagnalls Publishing Company, Has Suddenly Reached the Lowest Depth Of Duplicity, Now Doing the Bidding Of Wet Propagandists Who Are Defying the National Constitution.

Once again are the dry forces of the nation up against a grave super political fake in the form of another straw vote to be concluded in favor of the wet forces of the nation. In this connection the editor of The American Independent, because of his intimate acquaintanceship with the late Dr. I. K. Funk, the great prohibitionist, wishes to make a clear, honest and frank statement as to the reasons why The Literary Digest takes these fake prohibition votes.

We know how it will come out; we all know it is to come out wet by about three to one. While we know this, most people are at a loss to know the reason WHY The Literary Digest takes such an interest in constantly doing the bidding of the whiskeyites. Let us see if we can get at the bottom of the whole situation.

Forty years ago, and over, Funk and Wagnalls Publishing Company, now publishers of the Literary Digest, were the publishers of "THE VOICE," the first great prohibition paper that was ever put out, and by far the most effective paper the nation has ever had to champion the righteousness of prohibition. The two principal owners of The Voice were I. K. Funk and Mr. Wagnalls, long since deceased. It used to be said that Dr. Funk supplied the brains of the company and Mr. Wagnalls the money. Under the able management Funk and Wagnalls brought out the Standard Dictionary, possibly the greatest dictionary the English language has ever had, unless it is the Webster, antedating this one almost half a century. Over one million dollars were expended in the creation of this dictionary and nearly four years were taken in gathering facts that go to make it the complete volume it is. During

this time, The Voice, the national prohibition spokesman for all the dry forces, was growing in circulation by leaps and bounds, until at one time its total circulation reached three-quarters of a million each week. The Voice made Funk and Wagnalls and Funk and Wagnalls made The Voice. As the Voice grew in effectiveness the cause of prohibition grew in proportion. The Voice reached its zenith of usefulness about 1896, after which its circulation began to drop, when it was turned into The New Voice, a paper gotten up in the most super style. It ran a few years as The New Voice, when its subscription list was turned over to the late John G. Wooley and Dr. Samuel W. Dickey, now deceased.

Funk and Wagnalls have possibly published more good literature than any other publishing company on earth, maintaining a publishing office in many of the countries of the world. Most of their literature put out has been of the highest type, having conducted a magazine specially devoted to the ministry for years, and conducts such a magazine until this day. The editor of The American Independent has been a constant reader of many of their newspapers and magazines for over forty years. He has watched carefully every change made in the company and in its policy. Ministers of the gospel have bought more literature from this company than any other class of people. With such a back-ground as this how can one believe the Company at this late date, has sunk to the depths of duplicity it seems to have done? If it has, what has made the change? Why is such a company, that even yet publishes high-class literature, having done so much to obtain prohibition, now trying to destroy prohibition?

What would become of this very company should all the ministers of the gospel, the church, and all the dry forces of the land, withdraw from it their financial support? Let us see if we can give a reasonable answer to this much mooted question and satisfy the curiosity of a greatly perplexed people.

First and foremost, the wet propagandists have worlds of money and they are spending it in a gigantic effort to break down the constitution of the United States. There are fifty men in the east, all of them one-time liquor dealers, such as DuPont, Rascoe, Attebery, and others, who would give readily one hundred million dollars to make this country once more wet, and do it in order that they might once more put their idle capital to working in the manufacture of whiskey and beer, thus making back their hundred million the first year. These millionaires are in this business solely for the prospect of making a rich haul when, and if, prohibition is destroyed.

But were Dr. Funk and Mr. Wagnalls still living The Literary Digest could never have been given over to this unholy and unrighteous war on prohibition. The Literary Digest obtained its record for being both fair and dry under the management of E. J. Wheeler, who was its editor thirty years ago. He it was who gave to the paper its tone and dignity. It WAS not neutral thirty years ago, as its publishers boast now, for all its contents when touching on the dry question were shaped to favor the dry cause, just as all its contents, when touching on the wet and dry questions, now are shaped so as to favor and help the wet side. The Literary Digest is just as wet now in its so-called impartiality as it was dry twenty and thirty years ago under

the able management of Mr. Wheeler and the ownership of Dr. Funk and Mr. Wagnalls.

Some five or six years ago, so the story goes, the wet forces of the east, headed by some very wealthy Jews, obtained a majority of the voting stock in the Funk and Wagnalls Publishing Company. Just the exact amount of stock these wets obtained we do not know and can't vouch for its accuracy as to their actual ownership. But this story, as it came to us six years ago, does dove-tail into everything that has happened with the magazine since. It was about that time when the magazine began to lend its influence in an effort to break down the prohibition law, always maintaining it was neutral. Then finally came the unfair prohibition poll two years ago in which the nation went wet according to their statements about two to one, or a little more than that. It afterwards turned out that the Company sent ballots largely to the big cities and the wet centers, farmers, those living in rural sections receiving but a very few ballots. Naturally, even if these votes had been correctly counted, the returns would have been overwhelmingly wet. Because of the reputation of the Literary Digest for fairness this did great injury to the dry cause, exactly what was intended to have been done. In other words, because of the dry record of the magazine, now turned wet on the sly, the paper was in a favorable position to stab the dry cause near the heart, and with its sharpened dagger, backed by millions from the wets, it started the campaign to kill the prohibition law.

Now comes the present vote, in which the paper boasts that it is sending out twenty million ballots. It may be, and it may not be, mailing that many ballots, but if it is,

it knew just the ratio in which the ballots would be counted. Were twice as many dry votes to come in as wet votes no doubt the "counters," all employees of the Digest, would count two or three wet votes to every dry vote. Millions of people will think the count is honest, and yet there is no reason for believing it is or will be honest. Even were the magazine to flop and give the dries a majority of the votes cast we would still not believe it was telling the truth, just as we do not believe there can be any dependency placed in the returns as counted. Those who are hired to count the votes will count them just as they are told to count them, giving the wets just the majority they are told to give them. If five million votes come in who knows but that they will say ten million came in, and if only one million are returned how would we know how many they would say were returned?

In other words, we find the nation, right on the heels of a great national election, facing a poll conducted by a wet paper, which paper pretends to be dry, the poll timed to suit the cause of the wet forces in their efforts to nominate a wet candidate for president and to adopt a wet platform. In our next month's issue we shall have a great deal more to say about this poll. In the mean time, be on your guard and have an answer for every one who speaks about the poll, telling them that there is no reason to believe twenty million ballots were ever sent out, and if there were that many there is no reason to believe that the count will be anything more than a mere fake. The dry forces must watch for all such insidious pranks, or schemes, worked by the wet easterners, who evidently rely much on the ability of the Literary Digest to make the people believe its huge wet poll is a fair one.

## Taxes Must Be Reduced If Country Is To Endure

On every hand we hear talk about "the country getting back to prosperity" while congress and every state legislature in session throughout the whole nation are working at fever heat to keep prosperity, or even tolerable times from overtaking us.

With taxes of every description piling up higher every day with farms and all kind of real estate groaning under a burden of taxes that can not be lifted, we see the legislature at Frankfort and Congress at Washington, as well as every legislative body now in session throughout the nation, are combing the country with a fine tooth comb in an effort to find other things they can tax. In as much as the larger number of our readers are in Kentucky, let us take a glance at the legislature as it sits at Frankfort hunting for things to tax.

In the ultimate analysis as regards the tax question there is little, if any difference between the Democratic and Republican parties. There may be a difference between individual candidates, but in the end neither of the two big political parties is worth a copper to the average American citizen. The leaders of neither of the parties find it to their liking to pay any attention to a campaign pledge.

So all over this state Judge Ruby Laffoon, now Governor Laffoon, paced about promising the voters lower taxes and greater public improvements, a promise that the av-

erage voter ought to have known he could not make good. He had no longer been in the state mansion than he suddenly learned, apparently to his holy horror, that the State was eight million dollars in debt. He knew this while he was a candidate and he knew the Democrats were just as much responsible for this debt as were the Republicans. On learning this, the newly elected Governor asked the legislature to appropriate \$150,000 to finance a committee that would audit the books and find out "where the state stood." This highly financed committee, out of the taxpayers money, will report in about six months and report what the good governor and all the hungry politicians around him know right now. If we elected state officials four years ago, all but one on the Democratic ticket, to look after our business, certainly they were not very competent or else their books would have been kept so that each department would know where it stood as regards its debts and assets. But the committee is appointed, the commission will soon be down to work, all members of which will draw a princely salary, and after spending \$150,000 of the taxpayers money it will make a report telling exactly what Governor Laffoon and his compatriots already know, and also what every Republican politician already knows. But what is a little \$150,000 to the taxpayers of Kentucky when a lot of hungry politicians

must have some good juicy pie? Then the legislature got busy and put a tax of ten cents on every pound of oleo, better known as nut

### READY FOR SPEAKING DATES

Perhaps you would like to have a public meeting held in your community. If so, W. M. Likins, editor of The American Independent, stands ready to go anywhere within two hundred miles of Owensboro, and at almost any time. He asks no remuneration except what the local people would care to give him in way of subscribers to this little monthly paper. If you write for him, tell the date on which you would like to have the meeting, the nature of it, that is, will it be a mass meeting or just a meeting in your church, and how many meetings, if he should go a good distance he would want three or four meetings held on consecutive days. Here is your opportunity to have your people told the truth about prohibition and its enemies.

One county officer in Evansville is said to draw down a salary of over twenty thousand dollars per year. The salaries of all Indiana county officers have been increased 14 percent since 1929, while the wages of the working people have been reduced 49 percent since that date. Do you wonder that the people are rebelling against their county, state and national officials?

butter, so that all us poor devils who are out of work may pay the state ten cents for every pound of butter we eat. Of course none of these rich job holders in the state will need to pay this ten cents per pound for they can sit back in easy chairs and consume rich and delicious creamery butter. But the poor man, the consumer of oleo, the best he can get, must pay ten cents to the state for every pound of oleo he buys.

These politicians say they passed that law to protect the farmer, but that is not true. They passed it because they needed more money to pay bigger salaries and because the rich dairyman, who sell milk at forty cents per gallon for which they pay the farmer ten cents per gallon, wanted it passed. No, it will not benefit the "poor, down-trodden and hard pressed farmer" a single cent, but will benefit the rich dairymen, that is, those dairymen who deliver milk to the consumer. As to the farmer, he consumes more nut butter already than he does his own product, and every representative at Frankfort knows that.

Then there is the general tax bill this august body of hungry politicians is trying to get over, and they are looking around for every conceivable thing to tax. Some of the items our representatives have about concluded to tax are the water, gas and electric light bills. What a joy - killer that is for the poor family whose water bill is the low-

est, say a dollar per month, whose gas bill is the lowest, say two dollars per month, and whose electric light bill is the lowest, say two dollars per month. All of these little small users of electric lights, gas and water must pay ten cents on each bill, each month, just the same amount that is to be paid by the rich and big consumers. What a shame. Who will rise up to stop it? When will the people back at home forget about political parties and start to choosing legislatures and law-makers who are not politicians?

Yes, instead of trying to increase the taxes of the state, thus making it more difficult to live, these law-makers should be trying to curb the expenditures of the state by lowering salaries of the state officials, bank examiners, road commissioners, road supervisors, and so on down to the county, city and local officials. This legislature should turn its face towards lowering the taxes instead of increasing them. The people of Kentucky should, and probably they will, rebel against the burden of taxes they are already under. What might settle matters is a tax-strike, in which every taxpayer would agree not to pay a dollar of taxes until matters are adjusted. It may ultimately come to that. Stop the big salaries of this horde of hungry politicians for at least one year, let them work without pay just as the rest of us are doing, and you would not see such a swarm of candidates up for office at the next election.



## The American Independent

MONTHLY

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W. M. LIKINS

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THE AMERICAN INDEPENDENT IS INDEPENDENT

For forty years the editor and publisher of The American Independent has fought the liquor traffic. Until about ten years ago he constantly worked for and voted the Prohibition Party ticket, believing that the "liquor traffic can not be licensed without sin." He fought for the cause every day in the week and every week in the year, and always voted as he prayed, for the destruction of the saloons. At one time he was the editor of a paper that enjoyed one of the largest weekly circulations of any prohibition paper in America. We are not telling this in a boastful or vain way, but to let our readers know that from youth up we have been fighting the liquor traffic. It is easy, then, for men like myself, those of us who for years voted the Prohibition Party ticket, to be absolutely independent. I neither love nor hate any political party. I can vote for a Republican candidate with the same ease I can support a Democratic candidate, and vice versa. I know no political party after the flesh and care nothing for either.

The American Independent is here to serve no political party, no political clique and no politician. If the Democrats will put up a dry in 1932, one as dry as I believe Hoover to be, the work of this paper so far as the presidential election is concerned, is over. We will then turn our attention to the election of dry congressmen and dry senators, making certain our two national lawmaking bodies in the future are as dry as they have been during recent years.

But aside from the prohibition question, the wet and dry issue, this paper has a field for operation and must be kept busy doing all the good it can along its chosen lines. We know that taxes must be reduced, therefore we shall be instant in season and out of season creating public opinion that will finally force the politicians to give the taxpayers material relief, and do it quickly. We are opposed to any further immigration to this country until the foreign population already here is more completely Americanized, and here we shall keep up a battering that will be helpful. We are opposed to the legalization of gambling, in horse racing or otherwise, therefore we will fight anything or any candidate who helps to license gambling on race tracks or elsewhere.

We believe that the Church is the greatest agency for good in the world today, and therefore this paper will be diligent in its advocacy of church members living a clean life and attending their church and prayer meetings. If we lose the church we lose all there is in America that holds us together as a people.

We are opposed to high schools being given over to play and fun; those who attend should do so because they wish to learn, and those who go for the purpose of engaging in games should remain at home and go to work. Therefore, we feel that the sooner our high schools do away with all inter-high-school games the better. In fact, if the gym could be altogether discarded, turned into class rooms, it would be immeasurably better for the schools and save the overburdened taxpayers millions of dollars. Do away with these costly things in our public schools that do not go to make up one's education and let the teachers devote themselves wholly to the literary instructions they are supposed to do. If there is any other good thing of which you can think, then we stand for that too.

### BREWERS' VIEWS CHANGE

"Re-legalization of beer would create a market for great quantities of farm products. The grain used by the brewing industry was equivalent to 10 per cent of the wheat crop . . . The huge quantity of grains formerly used in the brewing industry, thrown into the markets every year in competition with wheat, has contributed much to the farm debacle." — (From a letter by August A. Busch, president of Anheuser - Busch, Inc., to Richard H. Scott, August 7, 1931.

"Headed by Gustav Pabst, a delegation representing the brewers of the United States, was heard today by the Senate agriculture committee on Senator Gronna's bill to forbid the manufacture of grain into alcoholic liquors during the war.

"The actual amount of grain used in brewing, principally barley, they told the committee represents less than one-third of one per cent of all the grain produced in the United States, and in addition to that, the barley used, they said, is not a staple human food, here or abroad.

"The amount of land required to raise all the grain used in brewing in the United States, the committee was told, is less than seven-one-hundredths of the total of all the agricultural land in the country. From these figures the brewers argued that the brewing industry was too small a factor to be considered in the food conservation program." — (From The Evening Star, Washington, D. C., May 7, 1917.

It will be seen from the two clippings above that the breweries themselves do not agree on the amount of grain used in the making of beer. In 1931 when the breweries want back beer and the farmers want a market for grain, the brewers say ten per cent will be used. In 1917, when the nation was hunting for bread to feed the world these same brewers said less than one-third of one percent of all the grain was used in the manufacture of beer. Which statement was correct, the one made in 1917 before a Congressional Committee, or the one made in 1931 by August A. Busch? Let the reader answer the question himself and come to his own conclusions.

### ROOSEVELT IS GETTING HIS KNOCKS

Franklin D. Roosevelt is certainly getting his knocks. Just why Smith is opposing him is not just clear to us, except there seems to be a local fight in New York for leadership and Roosevelt is about to take it away from the recent Democratic candidate for president.

Roosevelt ought to be wet enough for Smith; he is trying to show the people of the east how wet he is and just recently denounced prohibition and demanded the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment. If that is not wet enough for Smith how wet does he want a fellow to be?

And here comes John Garner with a great big boom. Garner is a most imposing candidate from the South and will go to the national convention with a big bunch of delegates. If Garner is the choice of the Democrats he will make a most formidable candidate. While Garner did not vote for the Eighteenth Amendment, he has steadily voted for all the dry measures that have come up, so on John Garner's record he is satisfactory to the dry forces. If the Democrats wish to elect Hoover just let them nominate a wet and his re-election is assured. This country is dry and will remain dry, thank you. The dries will be satisfied with John Garner.

What would you think of an election in which one side had the selection of those who should vote, prepares and sends out the ballots, and when cast, do the counting? Would you feel that you had any chance of being elected under such circumstances? That is exactly what this Literary Digest vote is—the magazine selects the names, sends out the ballots and does the counting. It is a wet paper and naturally the ballots will be turned in wet. It is being held to frighten politicians. We hope it will fail in this unholy and dishonest game.

Do you want the old time saloons back? That is exactly what the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment would mean. If you repeal the Amendment you get back saloons.

# Meeting Wet Arguments

Here is a book of forty-eight large pages, printed on thick egg-shell paper, with large, readable type, author

W. M. Likins

Editor The American Independent. Mr. Likins takes up in this book every important phase of the prohibition question, one by one, and answers the objections of the wets. He does it in plain, old fashioned language so every one who reads may know what he reads. You can meet

## The Wet Crowd

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# The American Independent

P. O. BOX 130

OWENSBORO, KY.



## Is America In Danger Of Being Europeanized?

Here is a question that only Americans can answer. Our country is not what it was fifty years ago. Then the larger part of our population was either English, or far-fetched German and French descent. But just after the great panic of 1873, industry throughout the nation began a development, the zenith of which has just been reached. In building cotton and woolen mills, steel plants, and a hundred other industries, great manufacturers found that they could not always depend on American labor to supply the market. These same lords of industry also learned that one who had been born and reared in America would not always do the will of the labor boss. So great irritation and friction sprang up throughout the United States in all regions that had been industrialized.

To relieve themselves of the necessity of doing what their workers wanted them to do, these industrial lords stationed in the various European countries, and especially in Italy, Greece, Russia, Austria, Bulgaria, Servia, and a few other countries, representatives who sought out and obtained immigrants from these older countries. In some of these countries, as far back as fifty years ago, these American representatives who were sent to Europe to persuade Europeans to come to America, found it easy to visit the European prisons and obtain permission from the rulers to let these prison inmates come to America provided their ways would be paid by the American industrial representatives. This was quickly grabbed at by these representatives and for more than thirty years they kept a steady stream of immigrants flowing into this country, tens of thousands of whom were European prison inmates.

Lurid stories were pictured by these representatives and the European press of the fabulous riches one could obtain here by coming as an immigrant. So rapidly did the Europeans come that for two or three years more than a million a year came to our shores. A few years before the World War started more than eight hundred thousand immigrants came per year for a period of ten years. Had this same immigration kept up until now, and from the same countries from whence they were coming, there would now be almost as many Europeans here as there are Americans. But fortunately for us, the World War almost stopped immigration. By the time the World War was over so alarmed had Americans become that Congress passed many

restrictive laws until now very few immigrants are arriving. In fact, the present administration, favoring, as it does, restrictive measures, has so construed these laws as to practically prevent all immigration, less than 25,000 Europeans having come to our shores legally during the last year. Many thousands have been bootlegged in, of course, but legally speaking, European immigration has almost become a thing of the past. If this restrictive attitude remains in force at Washington, and if the Europeans continue to go back to Europe in the same ratio in which they are now returning, in another ten years America will be fairly free from the pest of foreigners, save, perhaps, seven or eight eastern states, which states will remain more or less Europeanized for many years to come.

And here is where prohibition and our American institutions have received their most severe blows. Such states as are clamoring for the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment are the states that are at the present time very largely dominated by Europeans. Take, for instance, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and we see in them almost a majority of foreigners. Then come on west and we see in Detroit, New York, St. Louis and many western cities that have large numbers of foreigners in them, also clamoring for the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment. Ohio is possibly wet at the present time, and that state, too, has been to a large extent Europeanized, and especially have her large cities become like European cities.

If this be true, then when Americans declare for the destruction of the Eighteenth Amendment they are simply following the foot prints of these newcomers, very few of whom have any love, and often, little respect, for our constitution. It behooves every laboring man, whose jobs these Europeans would take, to be on their go guard and not to fall into the snare set for them by Europeans. If one would be a real good American he can hardly be that by advocating such political changes as the Europeans are found advocating. Let us stick to our constitution and by so doing preserve the Eighteenth Amendment. The fake vote of the Literary Digest that is now being taken in no sense of the word represents the general opinion of the American people. However, this vote is fully discussed in another column of The American Independent.

## About Combining Counties

The possibility of combining counties as a means of efficiency and economies is taking hold throughout the nation. People are beginning to see that politicians are no longer to run this government, except as these politicians conduct it in the interest of the people.

In Indiana there are ninety-one counties. Good roads are all over the state, more so than in Kentucky. A tremendous move is on foot in that state to do away with the townships, or at least many of the township offices, and at the same time making the state into about thirty or forty counties instead of ninety-one as at the present time. In that state, the county treasurer of an ordinary county draws down six and eight thousand dollars per year, the sheriff fifteen and twenty thousand per year, and so on down clear through the entire list of county offices. This is absolutely unrighteous and sinful, while hundreds of thousands of other people in the state are starving. With the advent of good roads and the automobile, folks would not be over an hour from the county seat even if two and three counties were made into one county, thus saving for more than half the total expense of running the local government and at the same time have a tendency for giving the people better local administrations.

In Kentucky we find 121 counties, some of these counties not being

over fifteen miles square with four and five thousand population. These small counties have the same number of county officials the large ones do making it a burden almost unendurable on the part of the taxpayers.

It would be argued by the politicians that were the counties to combine that the matter of a county seat would be difficult to settle. Years ago it did mean lots to have a county seat, but nowadays it means almost nothing to a town to have the county seat, for the simple fact that folks no longer go to court and remain all night. The same thing would be true in case three and four counties were united into one big county. So the question of selecting the court house town ought not to be one of much interest to any, except the matter of having it located in the most central place.

If the 121 counties in Kentucky were made into about forty counties more than a million dollars would be saved every year by this combination, and not only would this saving be effected, but the counties would become so much more efficient. Folks, what do you say—let us give the politicians one good smack right between their eyes by taking two-thirds of their jobs away from them through combining counties? It is none too early to begin the agitation in real earnest. This paper proposes to do its full share in the discussion. It would be a good thing; it would be the sensible thing, and it should be done.

IF YOU WOULD SAVE PROHIBITION  
AND HELP PROTECT THE 18TH  
AMENDMENT HELP PLACE

## The American Independent

in the homes of 100,000 people. This little paper may not be big but it fights like a wild cat and there is no such word in its vocabulary as "give up". If you are a dry and love God, home and humanity send in subscribers by the dozen.

## Here Is The Proposition

THE PRICE OF THE MONTHLY EDITION OF THIS PAPER IS 25 CENTS PER YEAR WHEN ONLY ONE SUBSCRIBER IS SENT IN. BUT IF YOU WILL SEND US A CLUB OF TEN YEARLY SUBSCRIBERS YOU MAY HAVE THEM

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AT ONE TIME, NOW SHOW WHAT YOU ARE MADE OF; BE A SOLDIER AND GET IN THE FIGHT. SAVE THE EIGHTEENTH AMENDMENT BY HELPING TO GET THE TRUTH BEFORE THE PEOPLE. THE FIGHT WILL BE WON BUT NOT UNTIL EVERY ONE OF US DO OUR PART. ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO

## The American Independent

Owensboro

Box 130

Kentucky



# Hot Shots For Busy Readers

Judge Ruby Laffoon ran up and down Kentucky last fall making speeches in which he promised the taxpayers he would lower their taxes and cut down the state expenses. He had no sooner gotten elected and sworn in as governor than he was scraping around for ways and means to tax these very voters who cast their ballots for him. He will find a dozen things to tax to make their burden more unbearable. Harrison, the Republican candidate, had he been elected, would be doing exactly what Ruby Laffoon is doing now. As a matter of fact, politicians can no longer be trusted to do anything except to gouge the tax payers and spend their money feeding a hungry horde of political leaders.

Here comes oleo with ten cents tax on every pound you eat. What in the name of high heaven is to become of those of us who eat oleo? These big fat politicians who are keying this burden on us unfortunately are able to buy creamery butter, and on that they do not pay a cent of tax. These politicians, anxious to get something to tax, are doing it in the name of helping the farmer, when it will not help the farmer one single cent. It will only give the one who buys the farmers milk a bigger profit. The distributors already buy the farmers' milk at ten cents per gallon and sell it to their customers in the city at forty cents, thus making four hundred per cent profit.

There is nothing the matter with prohibition except the lies its enemies are telling. Its enemies are the powerful daily press, nearly every great daily being wet; the national magazines, nearly all of which are wet. Only one voter out of every ten see a prohibition paper or a circular on prohibition telling the truth. It is up to the dry forces to get busy and have the light turned on. Send us a big list of subscribers and set your neighbors right on this question.

The Literary Digest vote will go wet four to one; the nation next fall will go dry at the polls by an overwhelming majority if the dry forces will get busy and scatter the truth. This paper is scattering the truth, so help us to help the cause by mailing us a fine list of subscribers.

You paid hundreds of dollars to get prohibition; you believe it has been a great blessing and is a success. Now pay a few dollars to help save prohibition from its enemies. Send us a club of subscriptions and do it NOW.

There is no cheaper way to scatter the truth about prohibition than to scatter copies of this little paper all over your community. Folks everywhere are reading it.

If you wish to scatter the truth, make up a list of subscribers to this paper and mail them to us at once. This little sheet is a torch-bearer and will shed the truth, not only prohibition but on many other questions.

It begins to look as if there is a battle royal brewing in the Democratic party and that Speaker Garner now has the inside track, with Franklin D. Roosevelt just getting his bumps on every side. The people of this nation do not want another president from the wet East, but one from the dry South or West. If Roosevelt would withdraw it would be a good thing for the Democratic party this year. Here comes Al Smith and says he will run for president if the party nominates him. Of course he would, and what fellow wouldn't? But Smith has some evening up to do with Roosevelt, so let the lively fight just go right on.

Now comes some big Republican stating they will see that a referendum plank is placed in the Republican party platform and that Hoover will run on that plank. We do not believe the statement is true, but should it turn out correct here is one fellow, the editor of this paper, who will not vote for Herbert Hoover again. I do not believe he will turn wet for the sake of getting

the wet vote, but if he does, he will hardly have a friend in either camp who would have the slightest respect for him. These wets never get done predicting terrible things happening to the Eighteenth Amendment. Maybe they will happen and maybe they won't happen.

Of every dollar of gasoline tax in Kentucky, or in any other state, as for that matter, how much do you suppose is actually put on the roads? After paying big salaries to nine members of the board, keeping a swarm of office help at Frankfort, thousands of departmental supervisors, hundreds of political supervisors, investigating committees appointed in a hundred different ways, do you suppose there is much money left with which to purchase sand and gravel and pay those who work on the road fifteen cents per hour? Kentucky, with all her poverty, her eight million dollar deficit, is going right on paying salaries higher than those paid during the war. When will this thing stop? When will the taxpayers rebel and put an end to the waste of their money? Farmers should refuse to pay another dollar tax money until the legislature lowers salaries of political office holders and local and state bosses. If you really mean business when you talk about better times then start better business your way by compelling a lowering of governmental expenses.

Here is a good illustration as to how your money is wasted: A bank fails, the state or nation at once sends a representative to look into the books. This representative gets twenty dollars per day, and then he hires ten or thirty other "bookkeepers" at ten and fifteen dollars per day. This horde of accountants work for three or four weeks, draw their stated salaries, and in addition one dollar for one meal and seventy-five cents for each of two meals, every day, and two dollars for a room. These "bank adjusters" get fifteen and twenty-five cent meals and sleep in a fifty cent bed, yet they draw down the extra pay from the government, turning it in as above stated. Then one wonders why he gets nothing out of a bank when it fails, and why the tax money goes no further when paid. A horde of political wolves consume it all and the duped human beings have nothing left but to sit around and look in vain for a job, or try to live on ten dollars per week. And after all this, some of you are foolish enough to throw your hat into the air and shout for your political party, or parties. Both the Democratic and Republican parties are very devoted to their political henchmen. From now on, vote for the man and not for the party. If your party does not nominate the kind of man you want then look elsewhere for one. If neither party has that sort of a man up for you to support, you had better stay at home on election day.

Uncle Sam pays his employees from three to four times what these same people could make in other lines of work. Is it strange that this paper should favor a reduction of federal salaries from the president down to the postmasters and to the clerks in the post office, the salaries of all the department heads in the government, while millions of men and women are either starving or living off of charity? It is said that the head of the farm board bureau draws a salary of almost a hundred thousand dollars per year, with a whole swarm of clerks, inspectors, supervisors, etc., drawing thousands every year. And yet congress is borrowing money and striking bonds with which to get funds to pay these princely salaries.

Prohibition needs friends more now than it has ever needed them in its entire history. Be a friend of prohibition and help scatter the truth about it. This paper is telling the truth, but how can it do much good if you keep the door shut? Get behind it and help boost the circulation.

"Alfalfa" Bill Murray is swinging around through the country and will go to the National Democratic convention with a great big basket full of votes. Look out for Oklaho-

ma; her present governor is going to make trouble for some folks in the north and east.

This nation wants no one for president who is connected in any way with the infamous liquor traffic. Roosevelt will not do, because he is too wet. Otherwise he is a pretty good man.

Curing the public depression is no one man's job and any one telling you he can cure it does not deserve the confidence of a single voter in the nation. Only a quack will say he can stop the depression from completing its course. Old General Depression is not nearly through with this nation yet and no person can help it on its feet until it first strikes the bottom. When it hits the bottom it will then start up, but it can not turn around and start upward until the bottom is hit. Then and only then, will it rebound.

God may not have sent this depression on us; we do not believe He did, but one thing is certain, it is here because the Nation has violated God's laws.

A little more praying on the part of God's people would go a long way in curing the depression. It is the opinion of some fine people that hard times will continue in this country just so long as the hearts of the people are hard.

The Literary Digest is taking another fake poll. Why did it not announce how the final figures would stand before it sent out those "twenty million" letters? It knew how the final "count" would stand. Why keep the public guessing?

The people of this nation will pay but little attention to a magazine poll of the wet and dry voter when they know how wet this magazine is. If a vote is to be taken at all why did it not invite a few dries to help select the names and mail out the letters and then help bring them in and count them? The wet Literary Digest makes its own selection of names, brings in the votes and then counts the "ballots." What a fake it is getting off. It will fool no one but one who wishes to be fooled. The truth will out and The American Independent is helping to tell the truth about the wet Literary Digest.

## THE TOBACCO TAX

Representative L. B. Handley has introduced a bill to tax cigarettes and cigars. In our judgment this is a proper place to find a tax that goes to the buyer of a luxury. The propaganda by the tobacco companies that it would come off the price paid for tobacco is bunk.

The federal government now collects a tax of six cents on each package of cigarettes, and if the federal government raised that price to seven cents, the man who buys the package would pay a cent more and it would in no way affect the price of the tobacco.

If the federal government should reduce the tax one or two cents on cigarettes no tobacco company would pay a bit more for tobacco than they would otherwise pay.

This little blue stamp on the package of cigarettes costs six cents is merely added to the price of the tobacco and if the blue stamp cost three or eight cents it would not affect the tobacco price, but would only be added to the price of tobacco.

The local wholesale firm of D. G. Hayes tells us that practically one-half of his entire business is tobacco.

One would hardly think that tobacco in some form would equal the sale for all kinds of groceries sold from salt to canned goods. It only goes to show to what an enormous extent has become the use of tobacco in some form.

Groceries and drug stores say that during the depression, when nearly every article in the house slumped in sales, that tobacco practically held to its normal demand.

We think the tobacco tax which has been so successful in Tennessee and other states, is the best place to raise a large sum of needed money for the state, and hope Mr. Handley will not be sidetracked nor be swerved from pushing the bill introduced. — The Herald-News, Hodgenville, Ky.

## SUBSCRIBERS ARE ROLLING IN

Hundreds of new names are going on our subscription books every week. At the present time this paper has subscribers in every county in Kentucky, having also spread out to several other states. Flattering and encouraging letters are being received each week telling us how they like the paper and encouraging us to go forward with the work. We appreciate all this; it means much to us and makes us feel that after all our weak efforts are having some effect and that good is being accomplished.

The editor is on the road day and night, going into every town and hamlet of three or four states. During the last three weeks he visited several counties in Indiana and more than thirty towns and small cities, in every one of which he left big lists of subscribers. He is now going for the second time through Kentucky and during the next two months he hopes to visit every county, or about every one, in the state. He will probably leave from two hundred to a few score subscribers at every place he visits.

You receive this paper and you like it. We know you like it for every one that has spoken to us about it say they like it and want to help it in securing a large circulation. In Kentucky alone we should have a circulation for this paper of a half hundred thousand, and can if you, the one reading this, will get busy and work up a subscription list in your own community.

Then we have just issued a book, which will be a great seller. We take up the wet propaganda and answer every question with which these wet advocates are worrying the dry forces. Order a number of them, give them to some young people to sell and then order another lot. Keep that book going and keep the people reading it. All the prohibition cause needs to maintain its place in the hearts of the people is simply LIGHT. This paper and the book will shed forth that light. Circulate both of them.

## SEND YOUR WATCH TO US

We have been in the jewelry business as an institution since 1852. We have made a record of which we are ourselves pleased. If your watch does not act up just right, if it is broken, or needs cleaning or repairs, just mail it to us, and be careful to insure it. As soon as we receive the watch it will be examined. We will then report to you what it will cost you to have it put in first class shape. If you are pleased with our price, send us the amount asked and we will at once fix the watch and mail it to you. We do not wish to take any work from your own local jeweler but fully realize that there are many thousand readers of The American Independent who do not live convenient to any jeweler, and to those we make the suggestion that they mail their watches to us for repair.

Our eighty-year existence as a firm alone testifies to both our capability and our integrity. We have fought for the cause for which this paper stands and are glad to give it this advertisement, hoping that it will be of material help to the paper and that we might be able to help some of its readers out of watch trouble. Just address your letters to

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